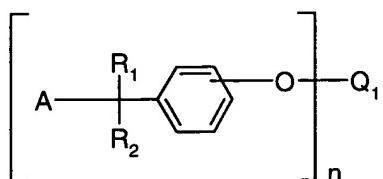
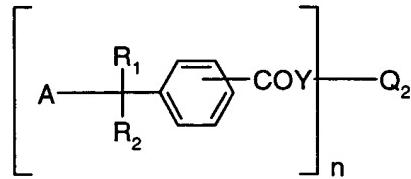


## In the Claims

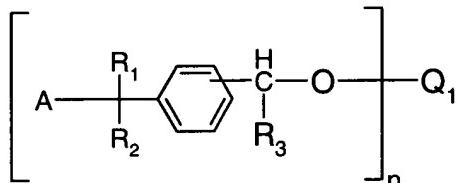
1. (currently amended) A compound of formula (I), (II) or (III)



(I)



(II)



(III)

wherein

$R_1$  and  $R_2$  are independently of each other hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_{18}$ alkenyl,  $C_3$ - $C_{18}$ alkinyl or phenyl which are unsubstituted or substituted by  $\text{NO}_2$ , halogen, amino, hydroxy, cyano, carboxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkylthio,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkylamino or di( $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl)amino;

$A$  is a group capable of forming a stable free nitroxyl radical  $A\bullet$ , which is bound via its oxygen atom to the carbon atom;

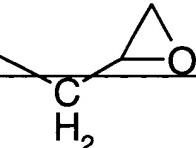
$Y$  is  $O$ ,  $NR_3$  or  $CHR_3-X_a$ , wherein  $X_a$  is  $O$ ,  $S$  or  $NR_3$ ;

$R_3$  is hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_{18}$ alkenyl,  $C_3$ - $C_{18}$ alkinyl or phenyl which are unsubstituted or substituted by  $\text{NO}_2$ , halogen, amino, hydroxy, cyano, carboxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkylthio,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkylamino or di( $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl)amino;

$Q_1$  is an organic radical derived from an unsubstituted or substituted triazine, from a polycarboxylic acid or polycarboxylic acid derivative having 2-6 carboxyl groups, from a multifunctional alkylating agent having 2-6 functional groups or from a polyisocyanate having 2-6 isocyanate groups; an organic or inorganic radical, derived from a compound having at least one functional group being capable of reacting with a hydroxy group;

$Q_2$  is an organic radical derived from a mono or polyfunctional alcohol, mono or polyfunctional aminoalcohol, mono or polyfunctional amine mono or polyfunctional mercaptane, mono or polyfunctional phenol or mono or polyfunctional thiophenol; and

n is a number from 2 to 101 to 20;

with the proviso, that in formula (I) if n is 1,  $Q_1$  is not , or if n is 2,  $R_1$  is H and  $R_2$  is

- $CH_2$ -O-tert[[.]]-butyl, A is not 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine or 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine-4-carboxylic acid.

**2. (previously presented)** A compound of formula (I) or (III) according to claim 1, wherein  $Q_1$  is derived from an unsubstituted or substituted triazine, from a mono or multifunctional alkylating agent, from a mono or polycarboxylic acid or acid derivative, from a mono or polyepoxide, from a mono or polyisocyanate or from  $POCl_3$ ,  $SO_2Cl_2$ ,  $BCl_3$  or  $SiCl_4$ .

**3. (original)** A compound of formula (I), (II) or (III) according to claim 1, wherein  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are independently of each other hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_{12}$ alkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_{12}$ alkenyl or phenyl.

**4. (original)** A compound of formula (II) according to claim 1, wherein Y is O or  $NR_3$ .

**5. (canceled)**

**6. (original)** A compound of formula (I) or (III) according to claim 1, wherein  $Q_1$  is an organic radical derived from an unsubstituted or substituted triazine, from a mono or polycarboxylic acid or acid derivative, from a mono or multifunctional alkylating agent or from a mono or polyisocyanate.

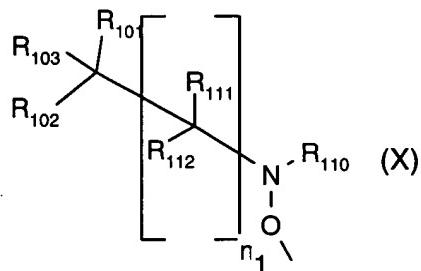
7. (cancel d)

8. (withdrawn) A compound of formula (II) according to claim 1, wherein Q<sub>2</sub> is an organic radical derived from a polyfunctional alcohol, a polyfunctional aminoalcohol or a polyfunctional amine.

9. (withdrawn) A compound of formula (II) according to claim 8, wherein Q<sub>2</sub> is a radical derived from a polyalcohol having 2-6 hydroxy groups, a polyaminoalcohol having 2-6 amino and/or hydroxy groups, or a polyamine having 2-6 amine groups.

10. (original) A compound of formula (I), (II) or (III) according to claim 1, wherein the radical A• derived from the group A is a stable open chain nitroxyl radical or a cyclic nitroxyl radical.

11. (currently amended) A compound of formula (I), (II) or (III) according to claim 1, wherein A is a group of formula (X)



wherein n<sub>1</sub> is 0 or 1

R<sub>101</sub>, R<sub>102</sub>, R<sub>103</sub> are each independently of one another hydrogen, halogen, NO<sub>2</sub>, cyano, -CONR<sub>105</sub>R<sub>106</sub>, -(R<sub>109</sub>)COOR<sub>104</sub>, -C(O)-R<sub>107</sub>, -OR<sub>108</sub>, -SR<sub>108</sub>, -NHR<sub>108</sub>, -N(R<sub>108</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, carbamoyl, di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkyl)carbamoyl, -C(=NR<sub>105</sub>)(NHR<sub>106</sub>); unsubstituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>9</sub>phenylalkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl or C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl containing at least one nitrogen or oxygen atom; or

$C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl,  $C_2$ - $C_{18}$ alkenyl,  $C_2$ - $C_{18}$  alkynyl,  $C_7$ - $C_9$ phenylalkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl or  $C_3$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl containing at least one nitrogen or oxygen atom, which are substituted by  $NO_2$ , halogen, amino, hydroxy, cyano, carboxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkylthio,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkylamino or di( $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl)amino; or phenyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted by  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkylthio, halogen, cyano, hydroxy, carboxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkylamino or di( $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl)amino; or  $R_{102}$  and  $R_{103}$ , together with the linking carbon atom, form a  $C_3$ - $C_{12}$  cycloalkyl radical, a ( $C_4$ - $C_{12}$  cycloalkanon)-yl radical or a  $C_3$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl radical containing at least one O atom and/or a  $NR_{108}$  group; or if  $n_1$  is 1



$R_{104}$  is hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl, phenyl, an alkali metal cation or a tetraalkylammonium cation;  $R_{105}$  and  $R_{106}$  are hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl,  $C_2$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl which is substituted by at least one hydroxy group or, taken together, form a  $C_2$ - $C_{12}$ alkylene bridge or a  $C_2$ - $C_{12}$ -alkylene bridge interrupted by at least one O or/and  $NR_{108}$  atom;

$R_{107}$  is hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl or phenyl;

$R_{108}$  is hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl or  $C_2$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl which is substituted by at least one hydroxy group;

$R_{109}$  is  $C_1$ - $C_{12}$ alkyen or a direct bond;

$R_{110}$  is  $C_4$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl bound via a tertiary C-atom to the nitrogen atom,  $C_9$ - $C_{11}$ phenylalkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl or  $C_3$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl containing at least one nitrogen or oxygen atom; or  $C_4$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl bound via a tertiary C-atom to the nitrogen atom,  $C_9$ - $C_{11}$ phenylalkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl or  $C_3$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl containing at least one nitrogen or oxygen atom, which are substituted by  $NO_2$ , halogen, amino, hydroxy, cyano, carboxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkylthio,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkylamino or di( $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl)amino; or

phenyl, naphthyl, which are unsubstituted or substituted by  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkylthio, halogen, cyano, hydroxy, carboxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkylamino or di( $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl)amino;

if  $n_1$  is 1

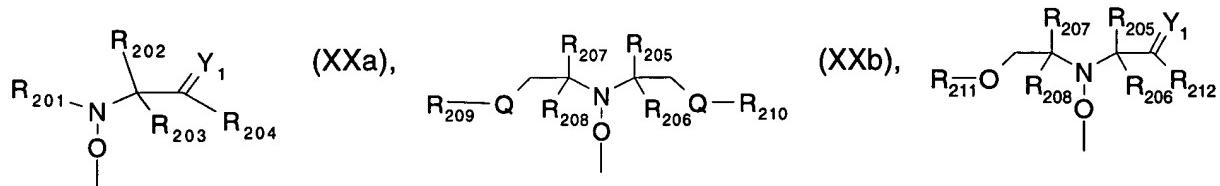
$R_{111}$  is  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl,  $C_7$ - $C_9$ phenylalkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl or  $C_3$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl containing at least one nitrogen or oxygen atom; or

$C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl,  $C_7$ - $C_9$ phenylalkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl or  $C_3$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl containing at least one nitrogen or oxygen atom, which are substituted by  $NO_2$ , halogen, amino, hydroxy, cyano, carboxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkylthio,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkylamino or di( $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl)amino; or

phenyl, naphthyl, which are unsubstituted or substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkylthio, halogen, cyano, hydroxy, carboxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkylamino or di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl)amino; or a polycyclic cycloaliphatic ring system or a polycyclic cycloaliphatic ring system with at least one di- or trivalent nitrogen atom; or

R<sub>110</sub> and R<sub>111</sub> together form a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>alkylene bridge, a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> alkylidene-on bridge or a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>alkylene bridge which is interrupted by at least one O or N atom, which bridges are unsubstituted or substituted with C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkyl, hydroxy(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkyl, phenyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>9</sub>phenylalkyl, NO<sub>2</sub>, halogen, amino, hydroxy, cyano, carboxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkylamino or di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl)amino, R<sub>112</sub> is hydrogen, -(R<sub>109</sub>)COOR<sub>104</sub>, cyano, -OR<sub>108</sub>, -SR<sub>108</sub>, -NHR<sub>108</sub>, -N(R<sub>108</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, -NH-C(O)-R<sub>108</sub>, unsubstituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>9</sub>phenylalkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl or C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl containing at least one nitrogen or oxygen atom; or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkynyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>9</sub>phenylalkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl or C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl containing at least one nitrogen or oxygen atom, which are substituted by NO<sub>2</sub>, halogen, amino, hydroxy, cyano, carboxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkylamino or di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl)amino; or phenyl, naphthyl, which are unsubstituted or substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkylthio, halogen, cyano, hydroxy, carboxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkylamino, di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl)amino; or R<sub>111</sub> and R<sub>112</sub> together with the linking carbon atom form a C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl radical;

or A is a group of formula XXa, XXb or XXc



(XXc),

wherein

Y<sub>1</sub> is O or CH<sub>2</sub>;

Q is O or NR<sub>220</sub>, wherein R<sub>220</sub> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkyl;

R<sub>201</sub> is tertiary C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkyl or phenyl, which are unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, OH, COOR<sub>221</sub> or C(O)-R<sub>222</sub> wherein R<sub>221</sub> is hydrogen, a alkali metal atom or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkyl and R<sub>222</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkyl; or R<sub>201</sub> is C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkyl which is interrupted by at least one O or N atom, a polycyclic alkyl radical or a polycyclic alkyl radical which is interrupted by at least one O or N atom;

$R_{202}$  and  $R_{203}$  are independently  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl, benzyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl or phenyl, which are unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, OH,  $COOR_{221}$  or  $C(O)-R_{222}$  or together with the carbon atom form a  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl ring;

if  $Y_1$  is O,

$R_{204}$  and  $R_{212}$  are OH, O(alkali-metal)  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkoxy, benzyloxy,  $NR_{223}R_{224}$ , wherein  $R_{223}$  and  $R_{224}$  are independently from each other hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl or phenyl, which are unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, OH,  $COOR_{221}$  or  $C(O)-R_{222}$ ;

if  $Y_1$  is  $CH_2$ ,

$R_{204}$  is OH,  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkoxy, benzyloxy,  $O-C(O)-(C_1-C_{18})alkyl$  or  $NR_{223}R_{224}$ ;

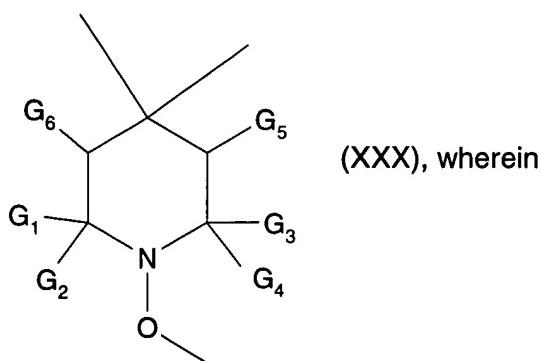
$R_{212}$  are a group  $C(O)R_{225}$ , wherein  $R_{225}$  is OH,  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkoxy, benzyloxy,  $NR_{223}R_{224}$ , wherein  $R_{223}$  and  $R_{224}$  are independently from each other hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl or phenyl, which are unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, OH,  $COOR_{221}$  or  $C(O)-R_{222}$ ;

$R_{205}$ ,  $R_{206}$ ,  $R_{207}$  and  $R_{208}$  are independently of each other  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl or phenyl; or  $R_{205}$  and  $R_{206}$  and/or  $R_{207}$  and  $R_{208}$  together with the carbon atom form a  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl ring;

$R_{209}$  and  $R_{210}$  are independently of each other hydrogen, formyl,  $C_2$ - $C_{18}$ alkylcarbonyl, benzoyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl which is interrupted by at least one O or N atom, benzyl or phenyl which are unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, OH,  $COOR_{221}$  or  $C(O)-R_{222}$ ;

$R_{211}$ , is formyl,  $C_2$ - $C_{18}$ alkylcarbonyl, benzoyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl which is interrupted by at least one O or N atom, benzyl or phenyl which are unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, OH,  $COOR_{221}$  or  $C(O)-R_{222}[[.]]$ .

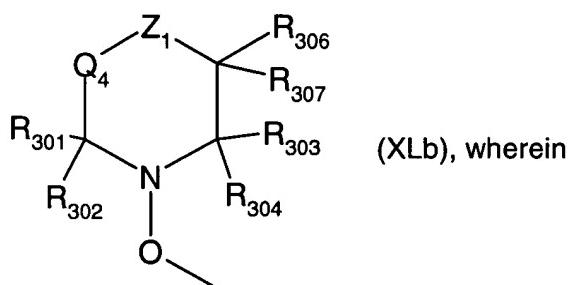
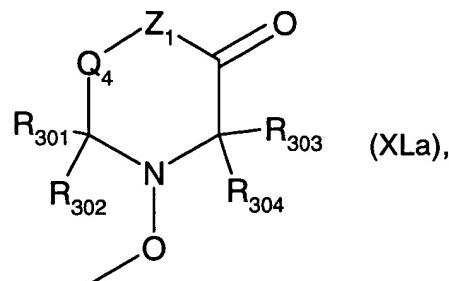
or A is a group containing a structural element of formula (XXX)



$G_1$ ,  $G_2$ ,  $G_3$ ,  $G_4$  are independently  $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkyl or  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  or  $G_3$  and  $G_4$ , or  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  and  $G_3$  and  $G_4$  together form a  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl group;

$G_5$ ,  $G_6$  independently are H,  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl, phenyl, naphthyl or a group  $COOC_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl;

or A is a group of formula (XLa) or (XLb)



$R_{301}$ ,  $R_{302}$ ,  $R_{303}$  and  $R_{304}$  independently of each other are  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_{18}$ alkenyl,  $C_3$ - $C_{18}$ alkinyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_{18}$ alkenyl,  $C_3$ - $C_{18}$ alkinyl which are substituted by OH, halogen or a group  $-O-C(O)-R_{305}$ ,  $C_2$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl which is interrupted by at least one O atom and/or  $NR_{305}$  group,  $C_3$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl or  $C_6$ - $C_{10}$ aryl or  $R_{301}$  and  $R_{302}$  and/or  $R_{303}$  and  $R_{304}$  together with the linking carbon atom form a  $C_3$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl radical;

$R_{305}$ ,  $R_{306}$  and  $R_{307}$  independently are hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl or  $C_6$ - $C_{10}$ aryl;

$Z_1$  is O or  $NR_{308}$ ;

$R_{308}$  is hydrogen, OH,  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_{18}$ alkenyl,  $C_3$ - $C_{18}$ alkinyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl,  $C_3$ - $C_{18}$ alkenyl,  $C_3$ - $C_{18}$ alkinyl which are substituted by one or more OH, halogen or a group  $-O-C(O)-R_{305}$ ,  $C_2$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl which is interrupted by at least one O atom and/or  $NR_{305}$  group,  $C_3$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl or  $C_6$ - $C_{10}$ aryl,  $C_7$ - $C_9$ phenylalkyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{10}$ heteroaryl,  $-C(O)-C_1-C_{18}$ alkyl,  $-O-C_1-C_{18}$ alkyl or  $-COOC_1-C_{18}$ alkyl;

$Q_4$  is a direct bond or a divalent radical  $CR_{309}R_{310}$ ,  $CR_{309}R_{310}-CR_{311}R_{312}$ ,  $CR_{309}R_{310}CR_{311}R_{312}CR_{313}R_{314}$ ,  $C(O)$  or  $CR_{309}R_{310}C(O)$ , wherein  $R_{309}$ ,  $R_{310}$ ,  $R_{311}$ ,  $R_{312}$ ,  $R_{313}$  and  $R_{314}$  are independently hydrogen, phenyl or  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl.

**12. (currently amended)** A compound of formula (I) or (II) according to claim 11, wherein A is a group of formula (X)

$n_1$  is 1

$R_{101}$  is cyano;

$R_{102}$  and  $R_{103}$  are each independently of one another unsubstituted  $C_1$ - $C_{12}$ alkyl or phenyl; or  $R_{102}$  and  $R_{103}$ , together with the linking carbon atom, form a  $C_5$ - $C_7$ cycloalkyl radical;

$R_{110}$  is  $C_4$ - $C_{12}$ alkyl bound via a tertiary C-atom to the nitrogen atom,  $C_9$ - $C_{11}$ phenylalkyl or phenyl;

$R_{11}$  is  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl,  $C_7$ - $C_9$ phenylalkyl or  $C_3$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkyl; or

$R_{110}$  and  $R_{111}$  together form a  $C_2$ - $C_6$ alkylene bridge which is unsubstituted or substituted with  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl; and

$R_{112}$  is  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl;

or wherein A is a group of formula (XXa)

$R_{201}$  is tertiary  $C_4$ - $C_8$ alkyl;

$R_{202}$  and  $R_{203}$  are methyl, ethyl or together with the carbon atom form a  $C_5$ - $C_6$ cycloalkyl ring;

$R_{204}$  is  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkoxy, benzyloxy or  $NR_{223}R_{224}$ , wherein  $R_{223}$  and  $R_{224}$  are independently of each other hydrogen or  $C_1$ - $C_8$ alkyl;

or wherein A is a group of formula (XXb), wherein Q is O;

$R_{205}$ ,  $R_{206}$ ,  $R_{207}$  and  $R_{208}$  are independently of each other methyl or ethyl; or

$R_{205}$  and  $R_{206}$  and/or  $R_{207}$  and  $R_{208}$  together with the carbon atom form a  $C_5$ - $C_6$ cycloalkyl ring;

$R_{209}$  and  $R_{210}$  are independently of each other formyl,  $C_2$ - $C_8$ alkylcarbonyl, benzoyl,  $C_1$ - $C_8$ alkyl, benzyl or phenyl;

or wherein A is a group of formula (XXc), wherein  $Y_1$  is O;

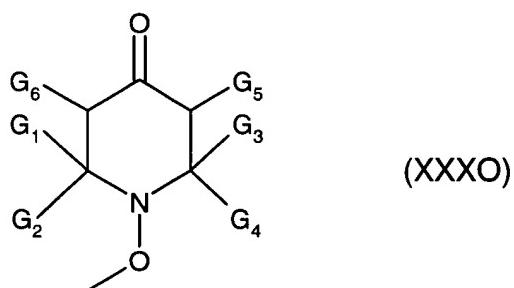
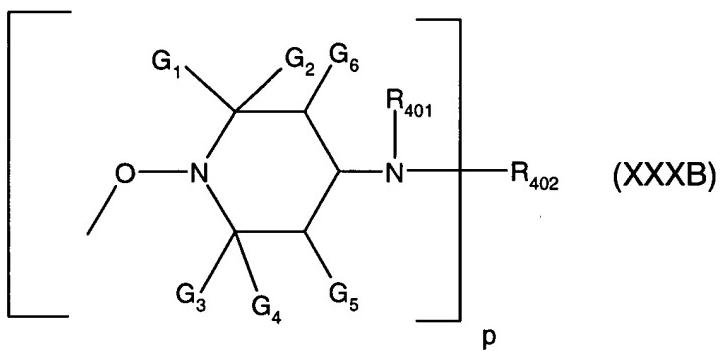
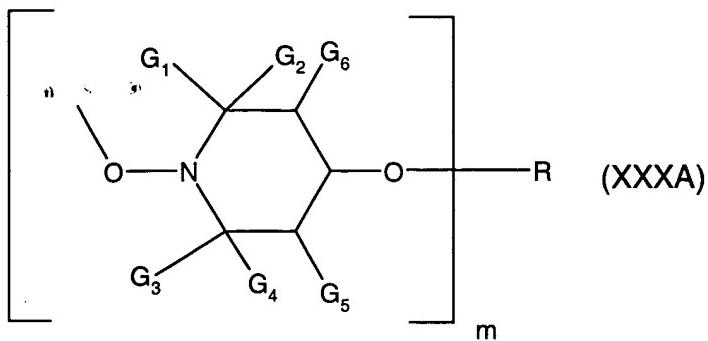
$R_{205}$ ,  $R_{206}$ ,  $R_{207}$  and  $R_{208}$  are independently of each other methyl or ethyl; or

$R_{205}$  and  $R_{206}$  and/or  $R_{207}$  and  $R_{208}$  together with the carbon atom form a  $C_5$ - $C_6$ cycloalkyl ring;

$R_{211}$  is formyl,  $C_2$ - $C_{18}$ alkylcarbonyl, benzoyl,  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl, benzyl or phenyl and

$R_{212}$  is OH,  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkoxy, benzyloxy,  $NR_{223}R_{224}$ , wherein  $R_{223}$  and  $R_{224}$  are independently of each other hydrogen or  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl[[.]].

or wherein A is a group of formula (XXXA), (XXXB) or (XXXO)



wherein

$G_1$ ,  $G_2$ ,  $G_3$  and  $G_4$  are independently alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, or  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  together and  $G_3$  and  $G_4$  together, or  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  together or  $G_3$  and  $G_4$  together are pentamethylene;

$G_5$  and  $G_6$  are independently hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl;

$m$  is a number from 1-4;

$p$  is a number from 1-3;

$R$ , if  $m$  is 1, is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkyl which is uninterrupted or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkyl which is interrupted by one or more oxygen atoms, cyanoethyl, benzoyl, glycidyl, a monovalent radical of an aliphatic carboxylic acid having 2 to 18 carbon atoms, of a cycloaliphatic carboxylic acid having 7 to 15 carbon atoms, or

an  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated carboxylic acid having 3 to 5 carbon atoms or of an aromatic carboxylic acid having 7 to 15 carbon atoms, where each carboxylic acid can be substituted in the aliphatic, cycloaliphatic or aromatic moiety by 1 to 3 -COOZ<sub>12</sub> groups, in which Z<sub>12</sub> is H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>cycloalkyl, phenyl or benzyl; or

R is a monovalent radical of a carbamic acid or phosphorus-containing acid or a monovalent silyl radical;

R, if m is 2, is C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>alkylene, C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>alkenylene, xylylene, a divalent radical of an aliphatic dicarboxylic acid having 2 to 36 carbon atoms, or a cycloaliphatic or aromatic dicarboxylic acid having 8-14 carbon atoms or of an aliphatic, cycloaliphatic or aromatic dicarbamic acid having 8-14 carbon atoms, where each dicarboxylic acid may be substituted in the aliphatic, cycloaliphatic or aromatic moiety by one or two -COOZ<sub>12</sub> groups; or

R is a divalent radical of a phosphorus-containing acid or a divalent silyl radical;

R, if m is 3, is a trivalent radical of an aliphatic, cycloaliphatic or aromatic tricarboxylic acid, which may be substituted in the aliphatic, cycloaliphatic or aromatic moiety by -COOZ<sub>12</sub>, of an aromatic tricarbamic acid or of a phosphorus-containing acid, or is a trivalent silyl radical,

R, if m is 4, is a tetravalent radical of an aliphatic, cycloaliphatic or aromatic tetracarboxylic acid; p is 1, 2 or 3,

R<sub>401</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>alkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>7</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>aralkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkanoyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>alkenoyl or benzoyl; when p is 1,

R<sub>402</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkyl, C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>cycloalkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkenyl unsubstituted or substituted by a cyano, carbonyl or carbamide group, or is glycidyl, a group of the formula -CH<sub>2</sub>CH(OH)-Z<sub>4</sub> or of the formula -CO-Z<sub>4</sub>- or -CONH-Z<sub>4</sub> wherein Z<sub>4</sub> is hydrogen, methyl or phenyl; or

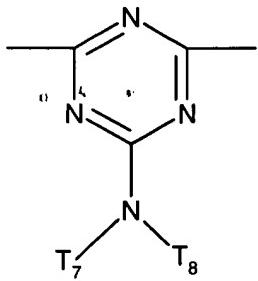
when p is 2,

R<sub>402</sub> is C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>alkylene, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-arylene, xylylene, a -CH<sub>2</sub>CH(OH)CH<sub>2</sub>-O-B-O-CH<sub>2</sub>CH(OH)CH<sub>2</sub>- group, wherein B is C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>alkylene, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>15</sub>arylene or C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>cycloalkylene; or, provided that R<sub>401</sub> is not alkanoyl, alkenoyl or benzoyl; or

R<sub>402</sub> is a divalent acyl radical of an aliphatic, cycloaliphatic or aromatic dicarboxylic acid or dicarbamic acid, or is the group -CO-; or

R<sub>401</sub> and R<sub>402</sub> together when p is 1 can be the cyclic acyl radical of an aliphatic or aromatic 1,2- or 1,3-dicarboxylic acid; or

R<sub>402</sub> is a group



where  $T_7$  and  $T_8$  are independently hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 18 carbon atoms, or  $T_7$  and  $T_8$  together are alkylene of 4 to 6 carbon atoms or 3-oxapentamethylene;

when  $p$  is 3,

$R_{402}$  is 2,4,6-triazinyl;

or wherein in formula (XLa) or (XLb)

$R_{301}$ ,  $R_{302}$ ,  $R_{303}$  and  $R_{304}$  independently of each other are  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted by OH, or a group -O-C(O)- $R_{305}$ , or  $R_{301}$  and  $R_{302}$  and/or  $R_{303}$  and  $R_{304}$  together with the linking carbon atom form a  $C_5$ - $C_6$ cycloalkyl radical;

$R_{305}$  is hydrogen or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl[[.]].

$R_{306}$  and  $R_{307}$  independently are hydrogen, methyl or ethyl;

$Z_1$  is O or  $NR_{308}$ ;

$Q_4$  is a direct bond or a divalent radical  $CH_2$ ,  $CH_2CH_2$ ,  $CH_2-CH_2-CH_2$ , C(O),  $CH_2C(O)$  or  $CH_2-CH-CH_3$ ;

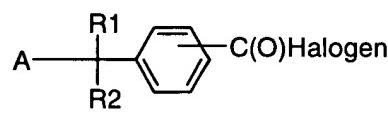
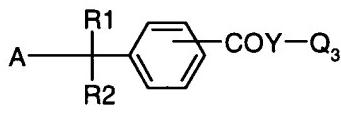
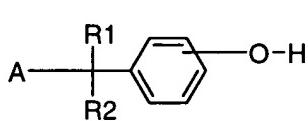
$R_{308}$  is hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl which is substituted by OH, or benzyl.

**13. (withdrawn)** A compound according to claim 12, wherein in formula (XXXA), (XXXB) or (XXXO)  $G_1$  and  $G_3$  are methyl and  $G_2$  and  $G_4$  are ethyl or propyl, or  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are methyl and  $G_3$  and  $G_4$  are ethyl or propyl.

**14. (withdrawn)** A compound according to claim 12, wherein in formula (XXXA)  $G_1$  and  $G_3$  are methyl and  $G_2$  and  $G_4$  are ethyl or propyl, or  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are methyl and  $G_3$  and  $G_4$  are ethyl or propyl, one of  $G_5$  and  $G_6$  is hydrogen and the other is methyl or both are hydrogen,  $m$  is 1 and  $R$  is  $C_1$ - $C_{18}$ alkyl or the monovalent radical of a  $C_2$ - $C_{18}$ carboxylic acid.

**15. (withdrawn)** A compound according to claim 11 wherein in formula (XL<sub>a</sub>) and (XL<sub>b</sub>) at least two of R<sub>301</sub>, R<sub>302</sub>, R<sub>303</sub> and R<sub>304</sub> are ethyl, propyl or butyl and the remaining are methyl.

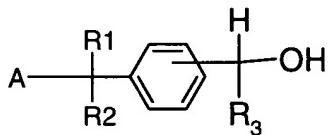
**16. (withdrawn)** A compound of of formula (IV), (V), (VI) or (VII)



(IV)

(V)

(VI)



(VII)

wherein

R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are independently of each other hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkinyl or phenyl which are unsubstituted or substituted by NO<sub>2</sub>, halogen, amino, hydroxy, cyano, carboxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkylamino or di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl)amino;

A is a group capable of forming a stable free nitroxyl radical A•, which is bound via its oxygen atom to the carbon atom;

R<sub>3</sub> is hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>alkinyl or phenyl which are unsubstituted or substituted by NO<sub>2</sub>, halogen, amino, hydroxy, cyano, carboxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkylamino or di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl)amino;

Y is O, NR<sub>3</sub> or CR<sub>3</sub>-R<sub>4</sub>;

Q<sub>3</sub> is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl; and

R<sub>4</sub> is hydrogen or halogen;

with the proviso, that if in formula (V) Y is CR<sub>3</sub>R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and Q<sub>3</sub> are hydrogen A is not a nitroxyl radical derived from 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-piperidine.

**17. (previously presented)** A polymerizable composition, comprising  
a) at least one ethylenically unsaturated monomer or oligomer, and  
b) a compound of formula (I), (II) or (III) according to claim 1.

**18. (canceled)**

**19. (currently amended)** A polymerizable composition according to claim 17, wherein the ethylenically unsaturated monomer or oligomer is selected from the group consisting of ethylene, propylene, n-butylene, i-butylene, styrene, substituted styrene, conjugated dienes, acrolein, vinyl acetate, vinylpyrrolidone, vinylimidazole, maleic anhydride, (alkyl)acrylic acid anhydrides, (alkyl)acrylic acid salts, (alkyl)acrylic esters, (meth)acrylonitriles, (alkyl)acrylamides, vinyl halides and vinylidene halides.

**20. (previously presented)** A process for preparing an oligomer, a cooligomer, a polymer or a copolymer (block or random) by free radical polymerization of at least one ethylenically unsaturated monomer or oligomer, which comprises (co)polymerizing the monomer or monomers/oligomers in the presence of an initiator/regulator compound of formula (I), (II) or (III) according to claim 1 under reaction conditions capable of effecting scission of the O-C bond to form two free radicals, the •C radical being capable of initiating polymerization.

**21. (original)** A process according to claim 20, wherein the scission of the O-C bond is effected by ultrasonic treatment, heating or exposure to electromagnetic radiation, ranging from  $\gamma$  to microwaves.

**22. (original)** A process according to claim 20, wherein the scission of the O-C bond is effected by heating and takes place at a temperature of between 50°C and 160°C.

**23. (original)** A process according to claim **20**, wherein a cooligomer or copolymer of star, comb or block structure is prepared.

**24. (currently amended)** A process according to claim **20**, wherein the compound of formula (I), (II)~~[(,)]~~ or (III)~~[(,)]~~(IV), (V), (VI) or (VII) is present in an amount of from 0.01 to 30 mol % based on the monomer or monomer mixture.

**25. (original)** A oligomer, cooligomer, polymer or copolymer prepared by a process according to claim **20**.

**26. (canceled)**

**27. (withdrawn)** A polymerizable composition, comprising  
a) at least one ethylenically unsaturated monomer or oligomer, and  
b) a compound of formula (IV), (V), (VI) or (VII) according to claim **16**.

**28. (withdrawn)** A process for preparing an oligomer, a cooligomer, a polymer or a copolymer (block or random) by free radical polymerization of at least one ethylenically unsaturated monomer or oligomer, which comprises (co)polymerizing the monomer or monomers/oligomers in the presence of an initiator/regulator compound of formula (IV), (V), (VI) or (VII) according to claim **16** under reaction conditions capable of effecting scission of the O-C bond to form two free radicals, the •C radical being capable of initiating polymerization.

**29. (new)** A process according to claim **28**, wherein the compound of formula (IV), (V), (VI) or (VII) is present in an amount of from 0.01 to 30 mol % based on the monomer or monomer mixture.